

REMARKS

Formalities

With this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1, 4, 12, and 15. Therefore, claims 2, 3, 5-11, 13, 14, and 16-20 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

With the current Office Action, the Examiner returns signed and initialed copies of the modified PTO/SB/08 forms submitted with Applicant's IDSs of February 18, 2004 and June 9, 2004. The Examiner also acknowledges Applicant's claim to foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Allowable Subject Matter and Claim Amendments

The Examiner indicates that claims 2, 3, 5-11, 13, 14, and 16-20 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten into independent form. With this Amendment, claims 2 and 5 are rewritten into independent form and amended for purposes of clarity. Claims 3, 6-11, 13, 14, and 17-20 depend from claim 2. Claim 16 depends from claim 5. Claims 6-10 are also amended for purposes of clarity.

Regarding claim 2, Applicants note that the Examiner states that "a semiconductor laser device comprising... a plurality of bypass diodes *each connected in parallel to each semiconductor laser diode...*" is not taught or suggested in the references or record (Office Action, p. 3). Applicants note, however, that the invention contemplates that each bypass diode may be connected to one or more laser diode, and therefore, *each* bypass diode may or may not be connected to each laser diode.

Therefore, Applicants amend claims 2 and 6-10 for purposes of clarity and to explicitly recite within the claims what was believed to have already been implicitly defined therein.

Applicants respectfully request the entry of these amendments and the allowance of claims 2, 3, 5-11, 13, 14, and 16-20.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 12, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly anticipated by Treusch (U.S. Patent No. 6,768,753).

With this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 12, and 15 are cancelled.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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